

THE GREAT BATTLE LINES IN THE WEST



The first general engagement in the West, sometimes known as the battle of Mons-Charleroi, started August 20 and resulted in the defeat of the French and British. They retreated south of the Marne, where the second general engagement started September 5. The line of this date on the map shows the armies' positions just before the battle.

The German right wing was broken up and forced back, bringing about a retirement of the whole line. The German positions on September 9, in the midst of their retreat, are shown on the map by a series of light rectangles, while a row of colored rectangles indicates the carefully prepared trench line of the Aisne where they stopped and were attacked by the allies September 13.

Both sides now extended their lines toward the coast. Light squares show the approximate positions assumed September 30. By October 15 the stage line was complete from the Alps to the sea.

The line of September 20 also shows the Germans' great drive into the French line across the Meuse at St. Mihiel.

Crossed swords mark the spots of the entrenched siege line where the greatest struggles have taken place since October 15.

FIRST YEAR OF THE WAR IN THE WEST

The first month and a half of the western campaign was made up of startling, swift moves. On September 12, after the defeat on the Marne, the Germans took up defensive positions along the Aisne river. The ten and a half months since then have seen a long deadlock.

The battle line of the Aisne and the Oise quickly extended northeast to the sea. Fighting has been continuous, with tremendous losses. The general situation has remained unchanged, gains of a few miles for one side at one point offset by minor gains for the enemy in other sectors.

At the beginning of August the Kaiser took possession of the little state of Luxembourg and demanded passage through Belgium to the Franco-Belgian frontier.

Permission to pass denied, Von Einem attacked Liege (August 4), while other German armies passed around the city and swept over the level Belgian roads at a terrific rate. The little Belgian army yielded Brussels and fell back to Antwerp and Ghent.

First Big Engagement.

Not until the Germans had almost reached the French border did the first important engagement take place. This is generally known as the battle of Mons-Charleroi (about August 20-28), but at the same time there was severe fighting along the whole line through Thionville in Lorraine and along the Vosges in upper Alsace, which the French had invaded with temporary success.

This battle resulted in defeat for the French and English.

While obtaining some successes in counter-attacks on the advancing Germans at Peronne and at Guise, the French were obliged to fall back rapidly to the line of the River Marne.

On the left the French had withdrawn to below Paris and the westernmost German army, under Von Kluck, followed.

The garrison of Paris was put in thousands of motor cars and hurried on Von Kluck's flank. The latter was not taken entirely unawares and met the attack strongly, but at the same time the army of General Foch attacked the German army on Von Kluck's left and drove it back.

Driven Back From Paris.

The Germans had begun the battle with five armies in line. The withdrawal of the two farthest west now caused the retreat of the third, fourth and fifth in that order, each in turn finding its flank exposed by the withdrawal of the troops on its right. At the same time the movement on the east end of the German line was accelerated by a strong attack from the French fortified zone of Verdun.

The German retreat was as orderly as that of the French and English had been. The invaders took up an admirable defensive position. It ran just north of the Aisne river, on a series of bluffs, then just north of Chalons and through the wooded, rough regions of the Argonne and the Woivre, joining hands here with the troops besieging Verdun. The allies have tried this line in vain ever since.

Both combatants now tried to turn the west flank. Enormous bodies of cavalry. On the part of the French Flanders. On the part of the French there was largely the desire to link up with the Belgians, now being attacked in Antwerp. The mighty siege guns of the Germans made short work of the Belgian seaport, however, and it fell on October 9. The remnants of the Belgian army retreated along the sea coast and the Germans in a final rush reached Ostend (October 15).

Line Extended to the Sea.

The battle line of the Aisne was now extended to the sea, the Germans holding the important French city of Lille, while the allies kept Ypres in Belgium and, partly by flooding the lowlands, held the position of the Yser river and canal.

From October 16 to November 10 was fought the desperate first battle

of Ypres, when the Germans suffered enormous losses in attempts to break through the line in Flanders and reach Calais. They succeeded in pushing back the allies only a little and the invasion of Silesia by the Cossacks finally induced them to desist and send re-enforcements to Russia.

The Germans in September had performed the feat of pushing a salient into the French line south of Verdun, which terminated on the west bank of the Meuse river at St. Mihiel; while the French had taken the offensive with some success in Champagne at about the same time.

For the most part throughout the winter the fighting consisted of regular siege warfare, with heavy artillery combats and mine and counter-mine.

The flooding of the River Aisne from winter snows gave the Germans a chance to entrap the French troops on the north side of that river in the vicinity of Soissons for a considerable distance and kill or capture most of them (January 14).

Take Offensive in Spring.

With the spring, the French and English attempted to take the offensive at several points. Always preparing the way with tens or hundreds of thousands of shells, they tried joint after joint of the German army.

In the Vosges the dominating height of Hartmannswillerkopf was taken and retaken several times in sanguinary charges and finally remained in the hands of the French.

The salient of St. Mihiel was also subjected to tremendous French pressure on both "legs." The French succeeded in gaining a little ground, but the Germans, despite the apparent weakness of the sharp wedge they had driven into the French line, could not be dislodged and later succeeded in regaining some of the territory they had lost.

The British also reported "victories" at Neuve Chapelle and Hill No. 60, in Flanders. Whether these should be accounted successes for the allies is doubtful. The British suffered enormous losses and at Neuve Chapelle bungled affairs to the extent of shelling their own men who had taken German trenches. In other cases they left gallant little parties lodged in enemy's trenches without supports to be annihilated.

The next development was the unexpected use of poisonous gas fumes by the Germans in attacks just north of Ypres. With this novel weapon they succeeded in taking several small villages and more than compensating for the British gains south of Ypres. The losses of the French, Canadians and British were severe, but they succeeded in stemming the German onslaught effectively a few miles back from their former position.

Begin Series of Attacks.

The German line makes a salient at Soissons, though not such a pronounced one as at St. Mihiel. The French now began a series of attacks on the upper side of this salient, to the north of Arras. Expending hundreds of thousands of shells, they time and again blasted away the barbed wire entanglements and concrete trenches, held by Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria's men, and then charged across the desolate ground for slight gains.

The fighting centered about the sugar refinery of Sochez and the great German work called the Labyrinth. Fighting went on in cellars and tunnels below the earth and the casualties were heavy. The French bent the German line and captured the Labyrinth, but whether the gains justified their sacrifice in human life is questionable.

In July, Crown Prince Frederick William's army attacked in the Argonne forest, west of Verdun, and succeeded in gaining several hundred yards of shattered woodland and capturing several thousand Frenchmen.

There were rumors that the Germans were re-enforcing for another great drive toward Calais or Paris, but the Teutonic campaign in the West continued to wait upon the crushing of the much weaker enemy in Poland.

FIRST YEAR OF THE WAR ON THE SEA

At the end of the first year of war not a German fighting craft, except submarines, is known to be at large outside the Baltic sea. The Austrian warships are confined to the upper Adriatic and the Turkish fleet to the Sea of Marmora and adjacent straits. The merchant marine of the central European powers has disappeared utterly from the ocean highways. Sixty million dollars' worth of German shipping lies idle in the docks of New York, while several times as much is bottled up elsewhere. At the same time the German submarines have inflicted enormous losses of allied shipping. While both sides have probably concealed many losses, the following is a fairly accurate summary of the number of craft which have been destroyed:

| Entente Allies. | | Teutonic Allies. | |
|--|--------|------------------|------|
| Brit. | Rus. | Ger. | Aus. |
| ish | French | man | man |
| Battleships | 10 | 2 | 1 |
| Cruisers | 12 | 1 | 2 |
| Submarines | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| Auxil. cruisers | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Gunboats, destroyers, and torpedo boats | 4 | 6 | 2 |
| Total Japanese and Italian losses, seven vessels of all classes. | | | |

BIG EVENTS IN FIRST YEAR OF THE WORLD WAR

- June 28—Archduke and Archduchess Francis of Austria slain by Serbian assassin.
- August 1—Germany declares war on Russia.
- August 2—German forces enter Luxembourg. German demands passage through Belgium.
- August 5—England announces state of war with Germany.
- August 7—French invade southern Alsace.
- August 8—British troops land in France and Belgium.
- August 11—Germans pass Liege forts.
- August 12—England and France declare war on Austria.
- August 15—Austrians invade Serbia in force.
- August 17—Beginning of five days' battle between Serbians and Austrians on the Jadar, ending in Austrian rout.
- August 20—Germans enter Brussels.
- August 23—Germans enter Namur and attack Mons. Austria announces victory over Russians at Krassnik. Japan declares war.
- August 24—British begin retreat from Mons.
- August 25—French evacuate Mauthausen.
- August 27—Louvain burned by Germans.
- August 28—Battle of Heligoland, several German warships sunk.
- August 29—Russians crushed in three days' battle near Tannenberg.
- September 3—Russians occupy Lemberg.
- September 5—Battle of the Marne begins. German right wing defeated and retreat begins.
- September 7—Mauthausen falls.
- September 12—German retreat halts on the Aisne.
- September 20—Germans bombard Reims and injure the famous cathedral.
- October 3—Antwerp occupied by the Germans.
- October 12—Boer revolt starts.
- October 14—Austrians occupy Ypres. Battle begins on Ypres.
- October 15—Ostend occupied by the Germans.
- October 16—First battle of Ypres begins.
- October 24—Ten days' battle before Arras, ending in German retreat.
- October 27—Russians occupy Lodz and Radom.
- October 29—Turkey begins war on Russia.
- November 3—German squadron bombards British coast.
- November 5—Dardanelles forts bombarded.
- November 6—Tangier surrenders.
- November 12—Russians defeated at Ligno and Kuzno.
- November 15—Russians defeated at Vitolavlek.
- November 17—Austrian victory over Serbians at Valjevo announced.
- December 2—Austrians occupy Belgrade.
- December 5—Serbians defeat Austrians in three days' battle.
- December 6—Germans occupy Lodz.
- December 15—Austrians evacuate Belgrade.
- December 16—German cruisers bombard Scarborough and Hartlepool, 150 civilians killed.
- December 20—Severe fighting on the line of the Baura river.
- January 3, 1915—French advance across Aisne north of Soissons.
- January 14—French driven back across Aisne river.
- January 24—Naval battle in North sea. German armored cruiser Blucher sunk.
- January 30—Russians occupy Tauris.
- February 6—Failure of German attacks west of Warsaw.
- February 8—Beginning of battle in East Prussia, ending in Russian defeat.
- February 18—German formal submarine "blockade" on Great Britain begins.
- February 24—Russians driven from Bukovina.
- March 10—British make advance at Neuve Chapelle.
- March 11—Austrians bombard Paris.
- March 22—Surrender of Przemysl to Russians.
- March 31—Russians penetrate Duka pass and enter Hungary.
- April 5—French begins violent attacks on Mihiel salient.
- April 14—Russians at Satorpko, 20 miles inside Hungary.
- April 15—Russians evacuate Tarnov.
- April 22—Second battle of Ypres begins.
- April 25—Allies leave Gallipoli peninsula, suffering fearful losses.
- April 28—Allies announce recapture of Liserna Het Sas and Hartmannswiller Kopf.
- May 15—Berlin reports capture of 30,000 Russian prisoners in west Galicia and seizure of three villages near Ypres.
- May 8—Russians fall back from Duka pass.
- May 7—Berlin reports capture of Tur-

now with many Russian prisoners. May 8—German submarine sinks the Lusitania, more than 1,150 lost. Russian in full retreat from Carpathians. May 9—Germans capture Libau Baltic port. May 12—French capture Ceremany, north of Arras, at great cost. May 14—American first submarine note made public. May 24—Italy declares war on Austria. May 26—Italians invade Austria. May 28—Italians take Grodno. Russians check Germans at Sienawa. May 31—First German note on submarine reaches Washington. Zeppelins drop bombs in London. June 3—Przemysl falls to Austro-Germans. June 10—Germans capture Stanislau. June 11—Second U. S. submarine note to Germany made public. Italians take Monteleone. June 12—Italians take Gradisca. June 15—Austro-Germans occupy Torogrod. June 22—French take Metzeral. June 23—French announce occupation of the "Labyrinth," north of Arras. June 24—Austro-Germans capture Lemberg. June 25—Austrians cross the Dalesier at Halle. June 26—Halle falls. June 28—Russian defeat German attempt to land at Windau. July 3—Russo-German naval battle of Gotland. July 4—Italians take Tolmino. July 5—Berlin announces gains in the Argonne forest. July 16—Germans take Przasnysz, 50 miles north of Warsaw. July 19—Germans advance at many points in Russia, taking Windau, Tulkies Blonde and Grobec. July 20—Russians report sinking of 59 Turkish sailing vessels. German guns reach outer forts of Warsaw and damage the Lublin-Cholm railway. July 21—Third U. S. submarine note goes to Germany. July 22—Turkish-German expedition landed in Tripoli. July 24—Germans take two forts near Warsaw. July 26—Russians repulse Austrians in Galicia.

CAMPAIGNS OUTSIDE BIG WAR THEATERS

In a score of regions there has been fighting which would have held worldwide attention were it not for the mighty battle lines in France and Poland.

Serbia's own war was a greater trial to her than either of the two preceding Balkan struggles. Assisted by Montenegro, the little Slavic nation twice threw the hosts of Franz Josef beyond her borders and inflicted losses of about 330,000 men, but she suffered severely herself.

The Austrians invaded Serbia in great force about August 15 and penetrated to the Jadar river, where a great five-day battle ended in the rout of the Teutons.

The Austrians returned soon in stronger force than ever. They reached Valjevo, where on November 17 the Serbians met a defeat.

With their supply of artillery ammunition exhausted, the Serbians now had to retreat. The Austrians, believing them crushed, withdrew six army corps for re-enforcements against the victorious Russians in Galicia.

Shells and English tars with naval guns reached the Serbians, and on December 5 they turned on the Austrians and cut them to pieces.

The entry of Turkey into the war was marked by a brave, but foolhardy attempt to invade Egypt. Great Britain's Indian and colonial troops threw the invaders back with heavy losses.

British and Japanese troops invested the fortified German port of Tsingtau, China, and after a siege of a few weeks the defenders gave up the hopeless struggle.

A section of the Boer population of South Africa revolted. The revolt was put down by a Boer, Premier Botha. He then invaded German Southwest Africa, and after a long campaign in the waterless deserts captured the greatly outnumbered Germans (July 8).

After taking three-quarters of a year to arm herself to the teeth, Italy attacked Austria this spring. The effect of the entry of Italy upon the arena has not yet been marked.

FIRST YEAR COST OF WAR IN MEN AND MONEY

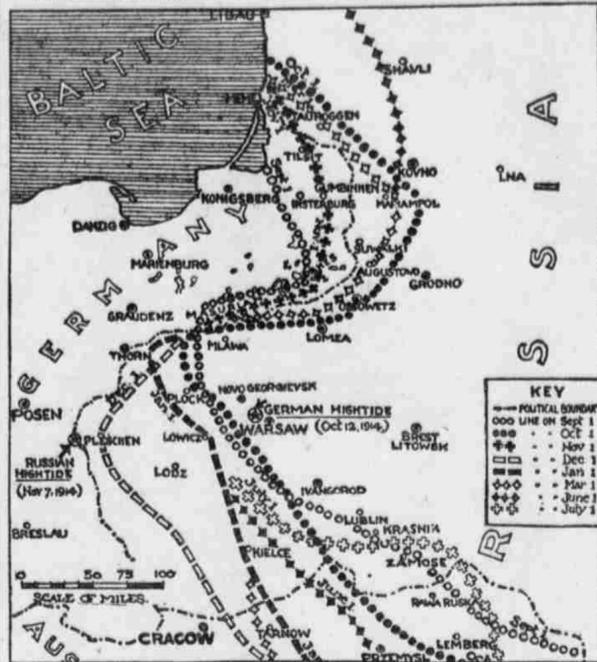
Only approximately accurate tables of the killed, wounded and missing in the first year of the war are possible, because France and Russia and Austria-Hungary do not give out their figures, while Germany has changed her policy recently to one of secrecy. Great Britain still tells her losses from month to month.

The following estimates are believed to give a fairly correct idea of the casualties:

| Teutonic Allies. | | Entente Allies. | |
|------------------|-----------|---|-----------|
| Germany | 2,300,000 | France | 1,700,000 |
| Austria-Hungary | 1,900,000 | Russia (including prisoners, 1,175,000) | 3,500,000 |
| Turkey | 230,000 | Great Britain | 480,000 |
| Total | 4,430,000 | Belgium | 260,000 |
| | | Serbia | 240,000 |
| | | Japan | 1,210 |
| | | Italy (no reports of losses) | 75,000 |
| | | Portugal (fighting in colonies) | (minor) |
| | | Montenegro | 30,000 |
| | | San Marino | (?) |
| Total | 6,286,210 | | |

The first year of the war has cost the belligerent governments about \$16,500,000,000 in direct expenditures for military purposes. The war is now costing about \$45,000,000 a day, \$2,000,000 an hour and \$30,000 a minute.

THE CHANGING BATTLE LINE IN THE EAST



The Germans again have penetrated as close to Warsaw as the star which marks the "high tide" of last autumn.

FIRST YEAR OF THE WAR IN THE EAST

The first twelvemonth of fighting between the Russians on one side and the Austrians and Germans on the other is a story of great changes of fortune, both combatants being repeatedly driven back only to show the greatest resiliency in defeat and soon to resume the offensive in a most surprising manner.

The end of the year, however, finds the pendulum swinging strongly against the czar. He may recover and take again the roads to Cracow, Vienna and Berlin, but just at present he is on the whole in worse plight than in any hour since the war started.

Russia's losses in the first year of the war are not approached by those of any nation in any war of history. According to reliable estimates, she has had between 2,500,000 and 4,000,000 men killed, injured and captured. Despite these horrible gaps made in her ranks, she still has millions in the field, and her great reservoir of personnel does not show signs of exhaustion. It is not men she lacks, but guns, shells and brains.

Slow to Mobilize.

On August 1, 1914, Germany declared war on Russia. Almost immediately the Germans crossed the frontier at Thorn and the Austrians south of Lublin. They were practically unopposed because of the slowness of mobilization in Russia. The Grand Duke Nicholas Nicolaievitch was forced to gather his main armies well to the rear of the line of great fortresses running through Kovno, Grodno, Oczewetz, Novo Georgievsk, Warsaw and Ivangorod.

On account of his desire to do all he could to relieve the French, who were being driven from northern France by the amazing German rush through Belgium, Nicholas attacked sooner than he otherwise would have done. As a result, he met two disasters.

He sent General Samsonoff into East Prussia from the south and General Rennenkampf into East Prussia from the east, the latter winning the first large engagement of the war in the East at Gumbinnen.

At this moment the Germans, believing that the French were well in hand and about to be surrounded on their eastern frontier, quickly withdrew 250,000 men from France and hurled them by rail into East Prussia, where they fell upon Samsonoff with crushing force in the great German victory of Tannenberg (Aug. 28).

Meanwhile, the Austrians, leaving only a few troops in Galicia to hold back the Russians advancing from Tarnopol on the line of the Gnila-Lipa, struck the Russians en masse at Krassnik and routed them to Lublin.

Most Bloody Drive of War.

With two armies in difficulty, the grand duke decided to abandon one to its fate and save the other. He threw re-enforcements into Lublin and ordered the line of the Gnila-Lipa river to be forced at any cost. In one of the most bloody drives of the war the Russians advanced into eastern Galicia and occupied Lemberg.

The Russians then advanced to Rawa Ruska and took the Austrian armies in Poland in the rear, cutting them up frightfully.

Meanwhile Von Hindenburg had completed his victory over Samsonoff by turning on Rennenkampf and clearing East Prussia of Muscovites. But though Rennenkampf had been defeated and Samsonoff almost annihilated, the Germans.

The Russians were now as far west as Tarnov in Galicia, while their Cossacks were able to make raids into Hungary farther south. Hindenburg concentrated a great force suddenly in Silesia and began a drive from the west against Warsaw and Ivangorod. The Siberian corps arrived in the nick of time to save Warsaw from the enemy.

High Tide of Russian Invasion. Hindenburg then drew off the northern section of his army in Poland to the north, thinking to take the pursu-

ing Russians in flank with the southern section. But the Austrians were too slow to carry out the field marshal's plans and the Russians, slipping into a gap in the lines between the Germans and their allies, slaughtered the latter. The result was the high tide of Russian invasion. The Austrians withdrew over the Carpathians again, leaving Przemysl to be besieged a second time. The Germans withdrew to Silesia and the Russians, following closely, were able for a brief moment to raid this rich province at Pleschen. At the same time they entered East Prussia again.

But again the German strategic railways proved their undoing. Hindenburg concentrated at Thorn and drove into the right flank of the Russian main forces, throwing them back on Lodz.

He advanced too far, however, and when he had the Russian forces nearly surrounded, he suddenly found Russians in his own rear. In this extremity, the Russians say, he telegraphed for re-enforcements.

But before the re-enforcements sent from Flanders arrived the Germans had managed at frightful cost to back their way to safety. This was the bloody battle of Lodz.

Wins Second Victory.

With stronger German forces opposing them the Russians withdrew to the line of Bzura, Rawa and Nida rivers. At the same time the Austrians, attempting to debouch from the Carpathian passes, were driven back everywhere, leaving 50,000 prisoners.

With January Hindenburg made a third desperate attack on Warsaw. For ten days, both night and day, the Germans came on. Then, having lost probably 50,000 men and the Russians nearly as many, they gave it up.

Unable to reach Warsaw, Hindenburg concentrated twice Siever's force in East Prussia, and won his second overwhelming victory there. Enormous captures of Russians were made and the fortress of Gradno was attacked farther west, from Ossowetz to Pultusk. The Germans retreated to Mlawa and then tried to flank the Russians at Przasnysz, which city they took. But the Russians again flanked the flanking party, as they had done at Lodz and won an important success (February 22-28).

In March and April, the Russians pressed through the western Carpathian passes and entered Hungary. Just when their future seemed brightest, the Germans broke the Russian line in West Galicia and let through enormous forces.

Pressing westward irresistibly, they took the Russian Carpathian armies in the rear. The latter tried to retreat, but vast numbers were captured. Przemysl, which had succumbed to the Russian besiegers March 22, fell again into the hands of the Austro-Germans.

Great German Maneuver.

From Przemysl Von Mackensen drove east through Moscliska and Grodek and captured Lemberg, the Galician capital. Then he turned north and marched upon the Warsaw-Ivangorod-Brest-Litovsk triangle from the south.

At the same time the Russians in southern Galicia, putting up a desperate resistance, were driven by Von Linsingen first to the line of the Dniester and then across the Gnila-Lipa to the line of the Zlota-Lipa.

Reaching the vicinity of Krassnik in their drive to Warsaw from the south, the Austrians sustained a severe check in the scene of their triumph of the previous summer. Held on this line the Germans attacked hotly from the north and took the town of Przasnysz (July 14).

The Germans now began the grandest maneuver ever seen in the history of human warfare.

From the Windau river in the Baltic provinces all the way along the border of East Prussia and in a gigantic sweep through the vicinity of Radom, west of the Vistula, and a line south of the Lublin-Cholm railway they delivered smashing blows and have reached the very gates of Warsaw.